

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HALIFA 00272 241745Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-02 DODE-00

FPC-01 H-02 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 /110 W

----- 054090

R 241740Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1089

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0272

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, CA

SUBJECT: CONTINUING STRIKE OF ATLANTIC HARBOR PILOTS

REF: CONGEN TEL 243

1. ALTHOUGH SINCE START OF PILOTS' STRIKE, TOTAL OF 370 SHIPS HAVE BEEN GRANTED WAIVERS TO ENTER HARBOR PROBLEM HAS DEVELOPED WITH REGARD TO LARGE OIL TANKERS AS THEY ARE AMONG 32 SHIPS FOR WHICH WAIVER NOT GRANTED.

2. SINCE LARGE TANKERS BEING DENIED ACCESS TO HARBOR IMPERIAL OIL, THE LARGEST REFINER IN HALIFAX AND SUPPLIER FOR NOVA SCOTIA POWER CORPORATION (NSPC), HAS BEEN SENDING SMALLER TANKERS OUT TO LARGE TANKERS ANCHORED OFF HALIFAX HARBOR FOR TRANSFER OF OIL. THIS VERY EXPENSIVE AND DANGEROUS PROCESS COSTING BETWEEN 20,000 DOLLARS AND 30,000 DOLLARS A DAY, NOT TO MENTION MONEY LOST BY REDUCED PRODUCTION AT REFINERY. NSPC HAS ONLY TEN DAY SUPPLY OF OIL STOCKPILED.

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PAGE 02 HALIFA 00272 241745Z

OFFLOADING PROCEDURE HAS ALREADY LOWERED PRODUCTION

OF REFINERY SIGNIFICANTLY. NOT ONLY IS SITUATION  
CRITICAL FOR NSPC BUT NORMALLY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR  
REFINERY IS REFINING FURNACE OIL FOR WINTER USE.

3. LOCAL FEATURE WRITER FOR HALIFAX CHRONICLE-HERALD  
IN BITTER EDITORIAL COMMENT LASHED OUT AT GOVERNMENT  
FOR ITS DO-NOTHING ATTITUDE SAYING, "SO FOR GOVERNMENT  
TO ALLOW A FEW PILOTS ALREADY MAKING 26,000 DOLLARS A  
YEAR TO HOLD UP SHIPPING INTO HALIFAX HARBOR AND  
THREATEN THE ENTIRE AREA WITH SHORTAGE OF POWER AND  
FUEL IS NOTHING BUT AN ABDICATION OF POWER." HE ALSO  
ASSERTS THAT THE LARGE TANKERS SHOULD BE GRANTED  
WAIVERS SINCE THE DANGER OF AN ACCIDENT IS MINIMAL.  
WITH A GOOD DEAL OF SARCASM HE RECALLS THAT THE GYPSUM  
CARRIER THAT WENT AGROUND ON GEORGE'S ISLAND IN HALIFAX  
HARBOR IN EARLY JULY HAD A PILOT ABOARD. "IN ALL  
PROBABILITY, IF THAT SHIP HAD NOT HAD A PILOT ON  
BOARD, SHE WOULD NOT HAVE RUN AGROUND. THE CAPTAIN  
WOULD HAVE EXERCISED MUCH MORE CAUTION."

4. IT IS PERHAPS IRONIC THAT ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF  
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON GRANTING WAIVERS FOR PILOT-  
LESS SHIPS TO ENTER HALIFAX HARBOR IS THE ATLANTIC  
PILOTAGE AUTHORITY, THE EMPLOYER OF THE PILOTS.  
MANBEY

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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